

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 13-15 as follows, with a marked-up copy of the amended claims being included in an Appendix attached to this reply:

1. (Amended) A composition for immunohistochemical staining which contains a diagnostic marker comprising:

an antibody bound with a fluorescent functional group comprising an indocyanine green derivative which is capable of being excited to cause fluorescence, and

A² at least one substance which enhances fluorescence intensity of the fluorescent functional group, said substance being selected from glycerophospholipid, fatty acid, or surfactant wherein the surfactant is a saccharide derivative having fluorescence intensity enhancing effect.

13. (Amended) An agent for enhancing fluorescence intensity of a diagnostic marker for immunohistochemical staining, the diagnostic marker comprising an antibody bound with a fluorescent functional group derived from an indocyanine green derivative which is capable of being
A³ excited to cause fluorescence, and the agent comprising:

at least one substance which enhances fluorescence intensity of the fluorescent functional group, said substance being selected from glycerophospholipid, fatty acid, or surfactant wherein the surfactant is a saccharide derivative having fluorescence intensity enhancing effect.

14. (Amended) A method for immunohistochemical staining of a tumor cell comprising:
contacting the tumor cell with a composition which contains a diagnostic marker comprising:
an antibody bound with a fluorescent functional group comprising an indocyanine green derivative
which is capable of being excited to cause fluorescence, and at least one substance which enhances
fluorescence intensity of the fluorescent functional group, said substance being selected from
glycerophospholipid, fatty acid, or surfactant wherein the surfactant is a saccharide derivative having
fluorescence intensity enhancing effect, and
allowing the composition to bind to the tumor cell, thereby staining the cell with the
diagnostic marker.

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15. (Amended) A method for immunohistochemical diagnosis of malignant neoplasia of
epithelial cells comprising:
contacting the malignant neoplasia of epithelial cells with a composition which contains a
diagnostic marker comprising: an antibody bound with a fluorescent functional group comprising
an indocyanine green derivative which is capable of being excited to cause fluorescence, and at least
one substance which enhances fluorescence intensity of the fluorescent functional group, said
substance being selected from glycerophospholipid, fatty acid, or surfactant wherein the surfactant
is a saccharide derivative having fluorescence intensity enhancing effect,
allowing the composition to bind to the malignant neoplasia, thereby staining the neoplasia
with the diagnostic marker, and
detecting the malignant neoplasia.
